The Citizen

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Wednesday, October 19, 2011 | The **local** newspaper for our community | blackburncitizen.co.uk

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Read the Rovers legend's views on what's going on at Ewood

EVERY THURSDAY IN YOUR TELEGRAPH

Hospitals winning superbug battle

By NEIL DOCKING

Hospitals are winning the fight against clostridium difficile bacteria after struggling to limit the number of cases in wards earlier this year.

East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust has a target for the current financial year of 50 cases of the superbug. During April and May the trust had experienced 13 cases, more than double its intended target of six.

This rose to 17 in June, which meant that in order to achieve its target, the trust must not exceed three to four cases per month for the rest of the year.

Since then, the number of cases has fallen drastically.

Speaking at East Lancashire Hospital's latest board meeting, Lynn Wissett, deputy chief executive, said: "I am pleased to report that for August we have had just three cases, and for September we have had just two cases, so that has taken us back onto our trajectory.

"We're still showing that we're above where we want to be because of those early numbers, but we are confident that we are back on track for this target."

Number of C-diff cases is reined in

So far, the trust has experienced 23 cases against a target of 15.

C-diff bacteria are found naturally in the gut of around two-thirds of children, and three per cent of adults. Some antibiotics used to treat other health conditions can interfere with the balance of these 'good' bacteria.

When this happens the bacteria can multiply and produce toxins, which cause illnesses such as diarrhoea and fever. In rare cases, the infection can be fatal.

The trust has outperformed last year's figures, but has struggled to meet tougher targets set this year.

George Boyer, non-executive director, said he was concerned about a possible rise in C-diff cases during the winter months.

Mrs Wissett said the trust had taken that into account when making its predictions, and that it was now putting into action a winter plan issued last month.

Textiles: Students on catwalk

THREADS: Textiles students, from St Wilfrid's sixth form college, Blackburn, model clothes they have designed as part of their GCSE and A level coursework

TV star launches improved hospice

TV star Lucien Laviscount, 19, cut the ribbon on the upgraded inpatient and day therapy unit at East Lancashire Hospice, in Blackburn.

STORY 4

WAITING IN WINGS

Singing sensation and X Factor finalist Rhydian Roberts is appearing on stage at Blackpool Opera House this month, playing the part of Teen Angel in Grease The Musical.

LEISURE 13

Tributes to Betty

Coronation Street actors from East Lancashire have been paying tribute to much-loved co-star Betty Driver, who died at the age of 91.

STORY 7

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Citizen In brief

Taster session for Nordic walking

British Nordic walking instructor Wayne Bowman will deliver a taster session in Witton Park, Blackburn, on Saturday, October 29, between 10.30am and noon.

The session will introduce the basic technique, followed by a walk.

The cost will be £4, including hire of the Nordic Walking Poles.

Anyone interested should contact Wayne on 07908669510, or email berkoe1@yahoo.co.uk

Art gifts for sale

Blackburn Artists' Society is currently staging its open exhibition at the town's museum and art gallery.

The event, which runs until January 7, 2012, is ideal for art lovers to pick up a unique Christmas present as art is for sale.

Join spooky stroll

A spooky walk around Darwen Cemetery will be held on Sunday, October 30.

People are asked to meet by the Ashton memorial, with a torch and a pair of strong boots, at 4pm.

Real ale 'has never been more popular'

By JONATHON DILLON

Real ale is pulling in more punters in East Lancashire than ever before, according to campaigners.

John Webster, chairman of the East Lancashire branch of CAMRA, said cask ale was undergoing a revival thanks to local breweries such as Moorhouses, in Burnley, and chains such as Wetherspoons, which has pubs in Accrington and Blackburn.

The popularity of real ale has seen the organisation, which campaigns for consumers rights with respect to the beer and drinks industry, welcome its 1,000th member Steven Banks, from Trawden.

Beer enthusiasts raised a toast when they presented him with a certificate at the Bridge Bier Huis, in Burnley, to mark the milestone.

John said: "The big pub companies such as Punch, or Enterprise, have realised that real ale is their best bet to avoid bankruptcy. It is now the biggest growth area in wet sales for both companies.

"But until our governments stop using the drinks industry as a cash cow, and refrain from imposing above-inflation tax rises, and they accept that binge drinking is caused by supermarkets selling cans at below cost price, we will continue to lose two pubs per day.

"I hope the government are finally going to do something about the unfair system operated by the PubCo's whereby licencees are charged up to 45per cent more for a guest beer than a Freehouse would have to pay."

He said more young people were turning their backs on lager in favour of real ale as it was available in town centre pubs.

He added: "Love them, or hate them, Wetherspoons have changed the whole pub scene in our town centres.

"An increasing number of pubs now sell real ale. Only a few years ago the majority of town centre pubs only sold lager or keg. Now many have at least one handpump.

"There is a general trend among British people to reject mass produced food and drink."

CHEERS!: East Lancashire CAMRA member Steven Banks, right, receives his certificate and tankard from CAMRA branch chairman John Webster

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Citizen In brief

Monsters and murder at hall

Zombies, Dr Frankenstein and the wolfman will roam the corridors of Samlesbury Hall during a 'Monster Mansion' murder mystery night this Friday, October 21, at 7.30pm.

Contact Samlesbury Hall, on 01254 812010, or email enquiries@samlesburyhall.co.uk

ATM wanted

A petition of 1,400 signatures has been submitted to Blackburn with Darwen Council supporting a planning application for a cash machine at the Premier Late Shopper, in Shear Brow, Blackburn.

Troops parcels

Donations are needed to make up parcels for troops serving overseas. The Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington branch of UK Forces Support has launched its 2011 Christmas Parcel Appeal. To donate, telephone 01254 601364, or email julia-ukforcesupport@live.co.uk A list of items is available at ukforcessupport.co.uk

Ribbon cut at hospice

By CHRIS GEE

Improvements to East Lancashire Hospice, Blackburn, to enhance the "comfort and dignity" of patients, have been unveiled.

Big Brother contestant and Waterloo Road star Lucien Laviscount, 19, cut the ribbon at the upgraded inpatient and day therapy unit at the Park Lee Road site.

Guests and the public toured the new facilities during an open day last week.

The £650,000 project has made the 10 patient bedrooms larger, including a separate seating area.

All now have en-suite facilities, with a wet room, and doors have been widened so patients' beds can be taken into the garden on sunny days.

Terminally-ill Patrick McCallister, a patient at the hospice for four years, spoke to about 50 guests at the launch. He said users of the services had already noticed the benefits. "I've had four stays here as an in-patient and every time the staff have been outstanding.

"These improvements mean it's much more comfortable and spacious. I didn't think it was possible, but I now feel even more secure and looked after as soon as I come through the doors."

Special guest Lucien, from Read, said he was honoured to be asked to open the refurbishment after establishing strong links with the hospice over recent years.

"The work done and dedication of the staff here blows me away," he said. "It's bright and relaxing and I'm only too glad to help."

Funding for the work was split between a grant from the Department of Health and fundraising within the East Lancashire community.

The building work was done by Oswaldtwistle firm J&C Devlin over a period of about a year.

LAUNCH: Lucien meets patient George McLean, who was being visited by Saffron and Rhiannon Zaki

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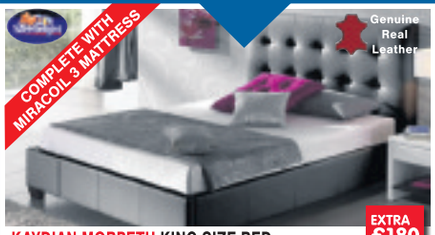

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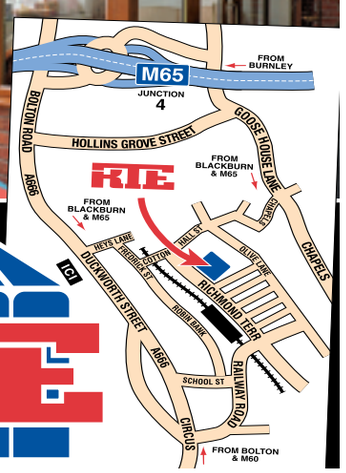

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STAY TRUE Working single mum, 40, into 80s/90s music, cinema, walks and nice pubs, loves to swim and keep fit, searching for a kind and caring guy, for a lasting relationship. Bolton/Lancs. **Box 111108 t**

LIMITED OFFER Easygoing, single mum 41, N/S, from Bolton, likes animals, walking, cosy nights in, wining, seeks honest male, to share life with. **Box 107414 t**

CARING WHISPER Shy Accrington single mum, 43. 5'5'', green eyes/brown hair, GSOH, enjoys music, nice walks and cinema, searching for a decent guy, who is genuine and fun, for friendship & more. **Box 112523 t**

TENDERNESS Friendly Bolton female, 43, nurse, enjoys gym, cinema, swimming and more, seeks kind, caring man, for an understanding, lasting relationship. **Box 107651**

CARING NATURE Caring female, 43, works as a nurse, Bolton, likes eating out, holidays, keeping fit, seeks like minded male, for ltr. **Box 107954**

TREAT ME WELL Divorced, sexy Bolton female, 44, 5'2'', GSOH, intelligent, likes meals out, walking and music, searching for a male, cute, sensitive, caring and funny, for dates and a happy relationship. **Box 114239 t**

NICE AND CURVY Decent looking female, 46, nice & curvy, very passionate & loving, wltm genuine, honest, good looking male 39-46, for a long term relationship. Nelson. **Box 101569**

PLENTY OF LIFE TO GIVE Divorced, young at heart Bury female, 47, 5'6'', blonde, GSOH, enjoys pubs, clubs, gym and football, seeking a considerate male, sporty, funny and kind, for good times and maybe a relationship. **Box 114354 t**

OUR MOMENT Slim, divorced Bolton female, 47, 5'11'', active lifestyle, enjoys riding, the beach and more, searching for similar sincere, easygoing man, who enjoys travel and an active life. **Box 103002 t**

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REACH OUT YOUR HAND Tall, attractive Darwen woman, 47, slim/med build, GSOH, caring, enjoys films, countryside, nights out/in, would like to meet a tall man, 45-55, honest and sincere, for company and maybe more. **Box 114691 t**

ENJOY LIFE Slim, warm, sociable, passionate Bury woman, 47, 5'2'', dark hair, many interest, looking to share good times with a genuine man, 42-50. Bury. **Box 850124 t**

LIFE'S ADVENTURE Slim Bolton lady, 49, 5'9'', searching for a solvent gent, for a serious relationship. **Box 112676 t**

LOOKING FORWARD TO IT Petite, divorced lady, 49, likes cinema, meals out, cinema, socialising, looking for a gent, to share life together. **Box 108042 t**

MEANINGFUL THING Curvy lady, 49, 5'5'', dark hair, brown eyes, likes walks, cooking, family life, seeks tall, family guy, to settle down into a lasting relationship. Chorley. **Box 102799 t**

A LOT TO GIVE Genuine female, 49 years old, looking for a gentleman for a life-time relationship, likes cooking, travel, most things. Blackburn. **Box 854547 t**

QUALITY TIME TOGETHER Young at heart, divorced lady, 50 with a GSOH seeks a male 45-55 to share life and a laugh with. Enjoys the gym, salsa and tap dancing. Blackburn. **Box 111803 t**

THAT MAGIC MOMENT Caring, loving, trustworthy, faithful Blackburn lady, 50, with lots of tlc, GSOH, looking for a gent, for a lifetime relationship. **Box 109765**

REACH NEW HEIGHTS Shy, divorced female, 51, spiky black hair, green eye, petite with grown up children, looking for genuine company & more. Widnes. **Box 102948 t**

JUST A MESSAGE AWAY Confident, muslim woman, 51, 5'4'', dark hair, hazel eyes, lives in Bolton, looking for that special man, to share my life with. **Box 106705**

WILL THIS DO? Fun, loving, bubbly,lady seeking a genuine, honest, loving man to share life with. Likes nights out and in, very loyal and decent. Blackburn. **Box 868259**

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GAME OF LIFE Friendly, brown-haired woman, 53, 5'6'', nurse, mum, GSOH, enjoys cooking, travel and more, seeks an active, interesting man. Blackburn. **Box 100516 t**

LOOKING FOR MR NICE Widow, Blackburn lady, 54, brown hair, blue eyes, N/S, enjoys walking, countryside, pubs, wining, walking my dog, dancing, cinema, looking for a sociable male, for ltr. **Box 106138 t**

LOOK FORWARD TO IT Affectionate, separated lady, 54, 5'3'', hazel eyes, nice figure, likes nights in & out, keeping fit, seeks nice male, 40-58 to settle down with. Burnley **Box 104788 t**

SOMETHING IN COMMON Friendly Bolton lady, 54, looking for a nice guy, who is friendly and outgoing, and loves sport, walks, eating out and theatre. **Box 113607 t**

LOOKING FOR A REAL MAN Blackburn female, 55, 5'6'', brow hair, N/S, grown up child, enjoys days out, seaside, car boot sales, social drinks, looking for a loyal, honest guy. **Box 110009 t**

A NEW CHAPTER Genuine, attractive lady from Blackburn, 55, brunette, enjoy socialising and would like to meet a caring, presentable man with gsoh, for days out and friendship initially. **Box 111316 t**

MAKE EACH OTHER SMILE Young at heart 55yr old lady, brunette, likes dancing, cinema, walking, meals in & out, wltm similar gent, for friendship leading to more. Bolton. **Box 102049 t**

LONG LASTING HAPPINESS Down to earth female, 56, gsoh, smoker, into most things, looking for an easygoing male, 50-60 for good times leading to more. Blackburn. **Box 104793 t**

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LIFE'S FOR LIVING Active Manchester lady, 57, works full time, enjoys walks swimming and more, looking for a kind, considerate and understanding man, to go out with. **Box 458054**

SHOW YOUR SMILE Decent, easygoing Bury female, 60, 5'7'', enjoys reading, art, crosswords and conversation, searching for a similar gent, 6ft+, with good manners, to share a happy future with. **Box 113959**

THE FINER THINGS IN LIFE Outgoing, attractive lady, 62, blonde NS with blue eyes. GSOH, enjoys good conversation, dancing travel and cooking. Semi-retired with own business. WLTM a smart solvent male 52-65 for friendship possibly more. **Box 111809 t**

GREAT COMPANIONS Petite, christian lady, 62, blonde hair, likes countryside, meals out, pets, gardening, walking, seeks gentleman friend, for 45-75 for friendship & more. Burnley. **Box 102703**

FROM ONE TO ANOTHER Separated, loyal female, 62, 5'5'', dark blonde, brown eyes, care worker, enjoys meals out, theatre, travel, seeks intelligent gent, for LTR. Bolton. **Box 100561**

SETTLE DOWN WITH ME Divorced female, 62, gsoh, smoker, from Bolton, likes socialising, countryside, wltm sincere gent. **Box 108734 t**

THE LOOK OF LOVE Very fit, attractive, young widow, 63, 5'8'', long brown hair, brown eyes, gsoh, likes dancing, dining out, football, socialising, seeks honest gent, 60-64 for ltr. Bolton **Box 105400**

ASK ME OUT! Honest, caring female, 63, 5'3'', slim, likes dancing, socialising and holidays abroad, seeks a man, 60-65, to enjoy life with. Burnley/Lancs. **Box 108090 t**

IT COULD BE YOU Great personality, young outlook, 60s, slim redhead, looking for my soulmate. Darwen. **Box 857045 t**

MAYBE MORE THAN FRIENDS? Bubbly Chorley female, 66, 5'5'', blonde with blue eyes, good sense of humour, non-smoker, would like to meet a honest and genuine man, for socialising, days out, travel and maybe more. **Box 114954**

PERFECT PERSONALITY Easygoing, friendly Bolton female, 67, 5'5'', N/S, loves walking, countryside, animals, music, football, wining and dining, looking for a man for friendship, companionship and having a laugh. **Box 114665**

STILL SEARCHING FOR YOU female, 68, long hair, green eyes, slim build, loves animals, walking, pub lunches, looking for a nice gent 67-70. Accrington/Lancashire **Box 112143**

PLENTY OF LOVING Blackburn lady, 69, 5'5'', blonde hair & brown eyes, would love to meet a lovely man, 55-75, for tender loving care. Donald please reply again. **Box 101525**

HEART TO HEART Blonde, blue-eyed Lancashire widow, 71, 5'7'', enjoys swimming, outings, theatre and cooking, searching for a kind, honest gent, to share interests with. **Box 113211 t**

COUNTRY LADY Genuine, kind Clitheroe woman, 73, dog lover, friendly, caring, enjoys countryside, dogs, socialising & eating out, seeking a similar gentleman, active, sincere & GSOH, for company and days out. **Box 115352**

EXPLORE NEW HORIZONS WITH ME Supportive, thoughtful Nelson widow, 74, own bungalow, looking for a happy gent, for friendship and company. **Box 113980**

TAKING THE FIRST STEP Young, blonde haired, blue eyed 74yr old Blackburn lady, petite, would like to meet an honest male to have a chat & a drink with. Likes going for country drives and weekend away. **Box 114823 t**

Men seeking women

THINGS IN COMMON? Shy at first type Blackburn male, 25, likes nights in and out, meals and generally having a good time, seeking a non-smoking female for friendship leading to a relationship. **Box 115438 t**

PROMISE YOU Single male, 25, 5'9'', blue eyes, short ginger hair, from Nelson, enjoys playing snooker, friends & family, seeks romantic female to enjoy good times with. **Box 111348 t**

CARE FOR A WALK? Easygoing, reliable Blackburn guy, 35, tall, blue eyes, GSOH, enjoys socialising, keeping fit and cinema, searching for a genuine woman, funny, caring and honest, for romantic dates and more. **Box 114640 t**

GO ON, TAKE A CHANCE! Honest, friendly St. Helens guy, 36, looking for a lady 40-55, for good times and laughter, friendship at first possibly leading to more. **Box 106232**

SEEKING GENUINE LADY Good looking guy, 37, 5'11'', enjoys walks and going to the gym, wltm female, 30-55 for weekends away, travelling, cosy times in & more. Accrington. **Box 102220 t**

LADY BE MINE Slim and sexy guy, dark hair/eyes, GSOH, laughs a plenty, 40, enjoys life and socialising, seeking a slim, shapely, mature female, 45+, with GSOH for romance and relationship. Manchester **Box 112448 t**

GET IN TOUCH Fun loving active guy, 39, enjoys eating out and socialising, would love to meet like minded woman for fun times. Bury. **Box 849418 t**

NEEDING SOMETHING SPECIAL Active, sporty, divorced Bolton male, 41, 5'9'', green/hazel eyes, likes martial arts, football, cinema, bowling, eating in/out, seeking a petite lady with similar interest, for company and more. **Box 114250 t**

PURE KINDNESS Caring, outgoing Nelson male, 41, likes nights in & out, countryside, looking for a genuine, honest caring female, who wishes to settle down into a long term relationship. **Box 114258 t**

SO GOOD TOGETHER Young 42, single, genuine honest & caring male, looking for that special someone to care for and share life together. Chorley. **Box 852878**

A FUTURE FILLED WITH LAUGHTER Outgoing, decent Bury guy, 44, GSOH, fit, tactile, enjoys keeping fit, dressing smart, meals out & socialising, seeking a black female soulmate, confident, funny and kind, for a possible future. **Box 115483 t**

SEARCHING FOR A COMPANION Enjoy wildlife and keeping fit? 44yr old Darwen guy, GSOH, likes walking, cycling, swimming, cosy nights in, would like to meet a woman with similar interests, to share experiences with. **Box 114537 t**

DON'T STOP BELIEVING! Busy single dad, genuine, caring, warm hearted, 44, GSOH, enjoys meals out and cosy nights in, would like to meet a similar minded lady, honest, kind, to spend quality time with. St Helens/Lancs **Box 112238 t**

SHARE EACH OTHERS COMPANY Handsome, sporty male, 46 from Bolton, likes cooking, walking, cinema, wltm nice, attractive, caring female, for a lasting relationship. **Box 106757 t**

REACH OUT YOUR MIND Down to earth male, 46, likes going out, pubs, eating out, music, seeks outgoing female, 42-52 for fun, friendship & more. Blackburn. **Box 104053 t**

ADVENTURE AHEAD male, 46, 5'10'', green eyes, smoker, N/D, likes social clubs, cosy nights in, music, eating out, seeks fun lady 30-50 to share good times with. **Box 100084 t**

SEARCHING FOR A SPECIAL LADY Active, delightful male, 46, own house, likes the outdoors, country pubs, keep fit, gardening, driving, holidays, seeks fun female, to enjoy good times together. Accrington. **Box 103201 t**

LIFE IS MADE FOR TWO Happy go lucky male, 47, dark hair, average build, looking for a fun lady, for fun, laughter and hopefully more. Nelson. **Box 102774 t**

LOVE IS THE ANSWER Honest, loving Blackburn single dad, 47, 6', stocky, blue eyes, GSOH, looking for a genuine female to wine, dine and love. **Box 849502**

FANCY A DATE? Caring, loving and romantic Bury male, 48. 5'10'', looking for a decent, loving, understanding and romantic lady, for a lasting relationship. **Box 113173 t**

ARE YOU MY SOUL MATE? Honest, down to earth singe dad, 47, 5ft2, slim, gsoh, likes nights in/out, easy going, WLTM slim, attractive, genuine female for friendship and more. Blackburn **Box 875820**

GOOD COMPANY REQUIRED Easygoing male, 49, own house, likes keep fit, country pubs, jogging, looking for a female, to share happy times with. Accrington/Lancashire **Box 111868**

LIFE & LOVE Active, happy bloke, 49, searching for a down-2-earth woman, to make a fresh start with. Accrington. **Box 100244 t**

RIGHT HERE WAITING Warm hearted male, 49, likes the gym, swimming, travel, seeks nice female, 30-50 to share good times and more together. **Box 104599 t**

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HAPPINESS AHEAD Romantic guy with a cheeky smile, 50, short hair, slim build, Chorley based, likes cooking, nights in, wltm female, to share good times together. **Box 108102 t**

IN YOUR COMPANY Adventurous male, 50, brown eyes, stocky build, loves outdoor pursuits, wltm attractive, curvy lady, for fun, friendship and more. Chorley. **Box 101586 t**

REACH OUT Friendly male, 50, 5'9'', enjoys socialising, dancing and having a laugh, seeks an equally loving and caring woman, to get to know better. Lancs. **Box 100026 t**

LIFES UPS AND DOWNS Professional, separated, honest male, 51, N/S, loves driving, animals, the great outdoors, seeks like minded female, 40-50. Darwen. **Box 102481 t**

LOOKING FOR A RELATIONSHIP Trustworthy male, 51, 5'11'', fair hair, blue eyes, seeks loyal, reliable female, to settle down with. Blackburn **Box 105742 t**

ALL THE BEST Open, friendly Darwen male, 52, 5'8'', brown hair, blue eyes, average build, varied interest, seeking a nice friendly female, 45-55 for company and maybe more. **Box 114305**

MISSING SOMEONE SPECIAL Easygoing, N/S 52yr old male, 5'5'', likes music, cycling, countryside, cosy nights in, wltm nice female, for a possible LTR. Burnley. **Box 101460 t**

RETURN MY SPARKLE Active Burnley man, 53, with a happy outlook & good personality, enjoys the outdoors, seeking a smart, erudite slim pretty lady for walks, talks & hopefully good old fashioned love and romance. **Box 115464**

TRUE HAPPINESS AWAITS Trustworthy, honest Blackburn chap, 58, 6'3'', own car, sociable drinker, likes the quiet life, would like to meet a similar woman to share life together. **Box 115241**

LUST FOR LIFE Affable, good looking, 58, 5'10'', many interest, reading, holidays, looking for a warm, feminine lady, for love and tlc. Accrington **Box 100439**

QUALITY MOMENTS TOGETHER Widowed male, 59, dark hair, brown eyes, medium build, GSOH with no ties, looking for a loving female, to enjoy life with. Blackburn. **Box 102137 t**

MY SIMPLE WISH Widowed male, 59, 5'8'', coach driver, many interest, looking for a nice lady, 45-65 to enjoy life with. Burnley. **Box 104247 t**

MAKE THE EFFORT Divorced male, 59, medium build, from Bury, likes country pubs, the seaside, nights in & out, seeks female 50-75 for friendship possible relationship. **Box 109831 t**

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EYES THAT SHINE Confident male, 54, 6'1'', own house/car, enjoys wining, cosy nights in, seeks open minded woman to enjoy life with. Manchester **Box 100085**

MAKING HIS MOVE Good-looking East Lancs male, 54, 5'10'', fair/blue, smoker, slim build, own home/car, smoker, enjoys meals, holidays and music, searching for a fun, feminine lady, 36-52, with GSOH, for romance. **Box 113314**

WAGON WHEEL Decent looking chap, 55, stocky build, very loving and honest, likes social drinks, driving, the seaside, looking for a decent woman. Burnley/Burnley **Box 111906 t**

SAIL AWAY Easygoing Blackburn widower, 55, with a passion for sailing and climbing, own yacht, enjoys walks, gardening & diy, seeking a professional lady, with caring disposition and a love of cats. **Box 111138 t**

THE THRILL OF IT ALL Self employed Burnley male, 56, enjoys country drives, weekends away, n theatre, meals out, looking for a lady companion, to share these good times together. **Box 113757**

FANCY A DATE? Loving, honest Bolton male, 58, GSOH, caring, tactile, enjoys music, cooking and painting, would like to meet a special lady, kind, affectionate and fun, to care for and maybe love. **Box 115413 t**

FIND OUT MORE Affectionate, active male, 59, medium build, N/S, likes driving, meals out, social drinks, motor bikes, seeks sincere female, 50-59 for ltr. Wigan. **Box 104192**

MAN OVERBOARD Warm, decent, genuine Blackburn male, 60, tall, slim, outgoing, smoker, enjoys outdoors, days out, boot sales, cosy nights, wltm similar slim, decent 50s female. If that's you... drop me a line. **Box 113202 t**

PURE HEARTS Charming fella, 60, 5'5'', med build, own home/car, enjoys country, coast and dining out, searching for a nice lady companion. Lancs. **Box 100114 t**

SEEKING NEW ADVENTURE Accrington male, 61, enjoys the simple things in life and likes a social drink, a non-smoker who would like to meet a sociable lovely woman, who wishes to enjoy good times together. **Box 115292 t**

READY FOR A NEW START Young at heart, caring, loving Blackburn male, 61, N/S, looking for honest, sincere woman to share life's ups and downs. **Box 112279 t**

CAN YOU HELP? Genuine, caring, active male, young 63, 6', GSOH, looking for that special lady in his life. Blackburn. **Box 849438 t**

NOT JUST WORDS Sincere, active Accrington gent, 67, own home and car, likes day trips, holidays, seaside and the countryside, seeks a loving lady for good times, company and companionship. **Box 100453**

THE STARS SHINE FOR YOU Tactile, caring chap, 68, 5'9'', N/S, N/D, own car, divorcee, likes meals out, cosy times in, garden centres, country pubs, seeks N/S lady. Chorley. **Box 102046**

SINCERE FRIENDSHIP Active Bolton male, 69, likes music, meals in and out, nice country walks, places of interest, would like to meet a sociable lovely woman, who wishes to enjoy good times together. **Box 115497 t**

GOOD COMPANY Active Warrington male, 70, own house/car, likes day out and weekend away, would like to meet a lady under 75, for companionship and more. **Box 104198**

ENRICH OUR LIVES Friendly, decent Nelson gent, 77, med build, 5'7'', active, enjoys various interests, meals out and walks by the coast, searching for a petite lady, kind and caring, for companionship & more. **Box 115423**

Women seeking women

REAL FRIENDSHIP Straight, average girl, 35, 5'8'', loves live rock bands, writing, reading, animals, vegetarian, pubs, cinema, looking for new friends, 21-55 around Chorley. Claire please leave contact number. **Box 104453 t**

TIME FOR EACH OTHER Shy at first type of woman from Chorley, 48, like the simple things in life, looking for a genuine, friendly and understanding female for a lasting relationship. **Box 115218**

GIRLS DAY OUT Lancashire lass, straight, own business, own car, GSOH, 50, enjoys days out, socialising, would like to meet other straight ladies for laughs, company and trips out. **Box 112435 t**

Men seeking men

SOMETHING LASTING Sociable guy, 52, 6ft3, enjoy good music and food, looking for a man, 35-75, with a nice personality for genuine friendship and romance. **Box 866148**

FLYING WITHOUT WINGS Romantic, outgoing Blackburn male, 60, 5'6'', slim, blue eyes/fair hair, enjoys nights out, cooking, travel and socialising, looking for a nice guy to share life with. **Box 467829 t**

DO YOU MIND? Victor Meldrew clone, 61, with a sight problem, seeks male minder for trips out, maybe more. Must have a sensitive, lively mind & GSOH. Kendal. **Box 560607**

BACK TO YOURS Genuine cross-dresser, 60s, various interests. WLTM assertive male for mutual fun times. All calls answered. Cannot accommodate. Bolton. **Box 318164 t**

DRESSED TO THRILL Mature male, 60s, cross-dresser, various interests, WLTM guy in the Bolton area. **Box 278966**

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Citizen In brief

Spitfire site now decided

A site has been decided for Darwen's commemorative Spitfire. The seven-metre metal sculpture will be placed outside the White Lion pub, in The Green. Darwen Mayor Paul Browne, who has been pushing for a decision, said: "That location is what most people preferred. I think the Spitfire will look fabulous where passing traffic can see it from both directions."

An installation date has still to be announced.

Open day

Hyndburn Fire Station is holding an open day on Saturday, October 29, from 10am to 4pm. There will be demonstrations of a range of rescue skills.

MP's surgery

Hyndburn MP Graham Jones will hold an advice surgery on Friday, at his office at 50 Abbey Street, Accrington, from 10am. Home visits can also be arranged for residents with poor mobility. Call 01254 382283.

Tributes to soap's Betty

By PAUL COCKERTON

SAD: Antony Cotton, and William Roache, will miss Betty Driver, left

East Lancashire's Coronation Street actors have paid tribute to co-star Betty Driver who has died at the age of 91.

She had played the role of Rovers Return barmaid Betty Williams in the soap for 42 years.

Edenfield-born Antony Cotton, Sean Tully in the series, said: "Today is a very sad day. I am devastated. We've lost our Betty. She was one of the funniest people I've ever met and definitely the kindest.

"I will miss her so much. Her star shone bright and long."

Accrington-born Julie Hesmondhalgh, who plays Hayley Cropper, said: "Farewell to our Betty. They don't make them like you any more. Feel so lucky to have known you."

Former Rossendale resident William Roache, Ken Barlow since the soap began, said: "I loved Betty dearly, she was not only a colleague, she was a friend and godmother to my son James.

"She will be missed in the Street, but she will be missed more so as a warm and loving person."

Ex-Corrie actress Vicky Entwistle, who lives in the Ribble Valley and played Janice Battersby in the soap, said: "I send you a tender kiss and huge cuddle Miss Driver! Amazing, talented lady with an enormous heart."

Betty Driver, who was made an MBE in 2000, appeared in more than 2,800 episodes of Britain's favourite soap. Her character was famous for her hotpot she served at the Rovers Return, even though the actress herself never ate meat. Baxenden-based Holland's Pies produced a range of dishes under the brand Betty's Kitchen.

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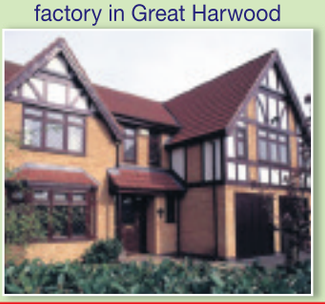

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Traffic fears halt plan for new Co-op

By EMMA CRUCES

Fears of traffic chaos at a key Rishton junction have seen plans to open a Co-op shop there thrown out.

Hyndburn councillors scrutinising the scheme for the former Bentley garage said the increase in traffic and congestion would overwhelm the junction with Blackburn Road, which serves a number of local schools.

The Co-operative group had submitted the plans through an agent, Hurstwood Properties, who said their client was looking to open a 430-square metre store.

Initially the bid was thought to be from Tesco, leading to a local campaign among traders who feared losing business.

CONCERN: Coun Cleary

However, Hurstwood revealed the Co-operative were behind the plans in a bid to move from their current site in Rishton's High Street.

Councillors said the effect on parking and congestion would see an accident happen if the bid was approved.

At a meeting of Hyndburn planning committee, Coun Clare Cleary, who addressed the meeting on behalf of residents, said the issues regarding traffic in the area were 'plain to see'.

She said: "We have had two public meetings in Rishton and feelings are very strong on this matter.

"There are three primary schools here and traffic is already a problem. Residents are very concerned about the effect of shoppers parking on this stretch, and large lorries making deliveries here."

Speaking on behalf of the applicant, Hurstwood Properties, Steven Hartley said: "Our client is the Co-operative, not Tesco as had been rumoured. They are planning to move from their existing location in the borough to this site.

"They have a very loyal customer base, which would improve footfall here.

"The suitability of the parking we would provide in the car park has been assessed by experts and we have made those reports available".

Coun Dave Parkins said: "I can see an accident waiting to happen should we approve this.

"It just isn't in the right place.

"They are better off staying where they are it seems to me."

Councillors voted to turn down the application on the grounds of highway safety.

Citizen In brief

Arts and crafts

An arts centre is holding its first ever arts and crafts fair. The fair, at the Civic Arts Centre, in Oswaldtwistle's Union Road, is on Saturday, October 29, between 10am and 4pm, and will offer hand-made festive gifts, jewellery, bags, clothing and cakes.

Wartime concert

A wartime memories concert is at Darwen Library Theatre on November 13, at 2pm, organised by the Soldiers Support Group of Darwen. Profits will go to the ABF Soldiers' Charity. Call the box office on 01254 706006.

Pub's ale prize

A Blackburn pub has been named the East Lancashire branch of CAMRA's (Campaign for Real Ale) Pub of the Season for autumn. The Black Bull, in Brokenstone Road, Livesey, was presented with the prize on Saturday.

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- Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Heathrow/North London area hotel with full English breakfast
- Free time in London
- Return coach travel from Blackburn, Accrington, Burnley, Darwen & Preston

* A discount of £7 per child from the adult lead-in price of £129.95pp applies to all children aged 5-15 years old inclusive at the date of entry to Warner Bros. Studio Tour London, i.e. the child price is from £122.95pp.

Organised by Omega Holidays, ABTA V4782. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability.
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TICKETS are available at £59 each (STANDARD CLASS – adult), £44 (child under 16 - STANDARD CLASS) & £89 (FIRST CLASS – all ages). These are only available from "Compass Tours". Call 0151 722 1147 (10am-6pm weekdays) for enquiries, seat reservations and debit/credit card bookings, visit www.compasstoursbyrail.co.uk send us an SAE or email info@compasstoursbyrail.co.uk for further details. **PLEASE NOTE** Mondays are usually our busiest so please consider contacting us on other days too. Postal bookings are to "Compass Tours", 46 Hallville Road, Liverpool, L18 0HR. **Booking conditions available upon request, by sending SAE or check our website.**

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Beauty queen to help Ellie fund

A beauty queen has stepped in to help Rishton cerebral palsy youngster Ellie Leathert.

Miss Lancashire Galaxy **Chelsealeigh Gould**, above, will appear at a fundraiser to help pay for an operation so the five-year-old can walk unaided.

Chelsealeigh will appear at the fundraiser for Ellie on Tuesday, November 1, at Salesbury Hall, Wilpshire, at 7pm.

Botany Bay

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It may be that you provide short break fostering, where disabled children, or children with special needs, or behavioural difficulties, enjoy a short stay on a pre-planned, regular basis with a new family, and their parents, or usual foster carers, have a short break for themselves.

All foster carers are registered with, and contracted to, a local authority, or voluntary, or independent, agency.

The role is to provide high-quality care for the child. All children in foster care will be looked after by a local authority and the foster carers will work in partnership with the local authority to provide this.

The foster carers may also work with other professionals, such as therapists, teachers, or doctors, to help the child to deal with emotional traumas, or physical, or learning, disabilities. Fostering agencies need a wide range of people to meet children and young people's very different needs.

There is no upper age limit, but agencies expect people to be mature enough to work with the complex problems that children needing fostering are likely to have, and fit enough to keep up with what can be a demanding task.

FAMILY LIFE: Fostering a child, or young person, can be short or long-term

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On any one day there are more than 57,000 children living with foster families.

There are now more children than ever coming into care, with almost 6,000 more in care on any one day now than there were in 2007.

Around two-fifths of the children in care are aged 11 to 15, and finding people with the right skills to look after teenagers is now the top priority for fostering services.

Fostering provides a safe, secure and nurturing family environment, either short – or long-term, and allows children to keep in contact with their own families if they wish.

Children come into care for a whole range of reasons, including a family member's short-term illness, or a parent's depression, or drug or alcohol misuse.

Some children may have been abused, or neglected.

Foster carers can give families a chance to sort out their problems by providing children with a home and supportive family for as long as they need.

About 70per cent of children in care live with foster families.

Fostering offers the opportunity to make a huge difference to the lives of the children who need it, and can be a very rewarding experience.

Blackburn with Darwen needs more adoptive parents

In Blackburn with Darwen there are currently children waiting for new homes and more adoptive parents are needed to come forward.

Following changes to adoption guidelines more people are eligible to adopt - so don't rule yourself out. To find out more attend one of the events taking place around the borough for National Adoption Week, Monday, October 31 to Friday, November 4, .

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Noon - 1pm

The adoption team will be out and about in Blackburn Market hall

Thursday, November 3, 5 - 7pm,
The Adoption Open Evening, Blackburn Library

For more information contact Blackburn with Darwen Council's Adoption Team, call 0800 328 6919,
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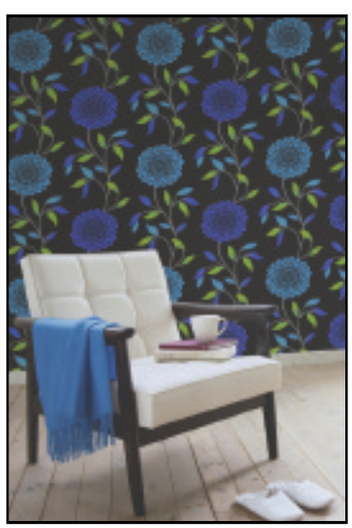

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CitizenTime

Roll out the Barrowman!

Fresh from his success with Torchwood: Miracle Day, John Barrowman is about to kick off a new UK tour.

60 SECONDS WITH ... JOHN BARROWMAN

JOHN, YOU'VE HAD A BUSY YEAR, AND NOW THERE'S YOUR NEW ALBUM, UK TOUR AND UPCOMING PANTO. DO YOU EVER HAVE A DAY OFF?

People assume that I work all the time, but I do actually take some time off and also we schedule the working.

WHAT CAN WE EXPECT FROM THE TOUR?

I follow a specific format, which I've done for the last three years. Basically it's like an evening with, or a night of entertainment. I tell stories, I have my four dancers with me, my band, my mum and dad are involved in the show. I also show pictures from the last year, integrating them with stories and songs, pictures from my childhood and the past.

IS THERE A TYPICAL AUDIENCE AT A JOHN BARROWMAN GIG?

It's a great mix because we have everything from teenage girls all the way up to the nans and in-between, with boys and 'Woodies' (Torchwood fans) and 'Whovians' (Doctor Who fans), so it's a really diverse audience. The thing that I'm most proud of is people know what they're going to get when they come to see a John Barrowman show, therefore ticket sales have been doing really, really well. A lot of the venues are pretty much already sold out and that's why we had to add some dates. We're doing double time at some of the venues.

IT MUST BE FUN WORKING WITH JODIE PRENGER

Yeah, Jodie was my guest star last year and she'll be my guest star again this year. She's great to work with because she's someone that I don't have to worry about.

What's on

theatre

SHYLOCK — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Thursday, October 20.

THE HINDOO MAN — Darwen Library Theatre, Thursday, October 20 to Saturday, October 22.

B.O.G.O.F — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Friday, October 21 to Saturday, October 22.

OH WHAT A LOVELEY WAR — Burnley Mechanics, Monday, October 24.

IN CONVERSATION WITH AN ACID BATH MURDERER — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Saturday, October 29 to Sunday, October 30.

gigs

JESSIE J — Manchester Apollo, Friday, October 21.

SHOW OF HANDS — Burnley Mechanics, Saturday, October 22.

RALPH McTELL — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Saturday, October 22.

THE HOLLIES — The Lowry, Salford Quays, Saturday, October 22.

ELIZA CARTHY BAND — Bury Met, Saturday, October 22.

THE OVERTONES — Preston Guild Hall, Saturday, October 22.

UKELELE ORCHESTRA OF GREAT BRITAIN — Blackpool Grand Theatre, Sunday, October 23.

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Angelic Rhydian

Singing sensation Rhydian Roberts has gone from 'classical to camp' with his latest role in Grease The Musical.

Starring in the smash hit and award-winning musical, the Welsh baritone will appear on stage playing the part of Teen Angel at Blackpool Opera House this month.

"I have always been a fan of Grease and this year's cast have just blown me away, it's really exciting and theatre is what I love to do. So I am just having a great time," said X Factor finalist Rhydian.

Following the release of his self-titled debut album Rhydian, the star recorded sales of more than 300,000 after four weeks – which was declared to be the highest selling album by a male chart newcomer in 2008.

He has performed with some of the world's biggest artists including the Stereophonics, Sugarbabes, Charlotte Church and Michael Buble.

His second album O Fortuna,

released in 2009, went gold and was nominated at the Classical Brit Awards for Best Album of the year 2010, while his third album, Waves, was released in August.

He said: "I have been so busy since the third album tour so the musical has been quite easy for me, it's easy just performing one song but it will be lots of fun."

Since his success on the X Factor in 2007, Rhydian's career has been a success and although he has always had talent, the ITV show has pointed him towards the right direction.

"I am very proud to have been on the X Factor and it was obviously a huge part of my life and has brought so many opportunities my way. I have been watching and think that Gary Barlow is good for the show although I don't know who will win just yet – ask me again in a few weeks," said the 28-year-old.

Currently touring the UK, Grease The Musical originally opened in the West End in 1993, running for six years and the last international tour of Grease was a phenomenal success having been seen by audiences totalling more than 12 million people in the UK alone.

And Rhydian, who has made his way from screen to stage after shooting his TV series for Welsh channel SC4, will be starring as Teen Angel for six weeks.

Cinema round-up

JOHNNY ENGLISH REBORN (PG)
Retired secret agent Johnny English (Rowan Atkinson) is wooed back to thwart an assassination attempt.

DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE DARK (15)
Sally Hurst (Bailee Madison) is sent to live with her architect father Alex (Guy Pearce) and his girlfriend.

WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER? (15)
Ally Darling (Anna Faris) reads that single women are doomed to spinsterhood if they reach 20 sexual partners.

BUSINESS PROFILE

A guaranteed glass act

Specialist company designs and builds all its own double-glazed units

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Next time you go window shopping, take a look at the array of products and services offered by Blackburn and Ribble Glass.

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BRG has recently moved into larger premises, in Stancliffe Street, so it can add to its already extensive list of machinery needed to make bespoke and traditional glass creations.

There is also now the space for displays, so customers and home owners can view the range of glass and glazing products available.

As well as designing and manufacturing double-glazed units, for both the public and trade, among the myriad of other services offered is glass cutting, lead works, a broken window repair service, stained glass repairs, and a 24-hour call out and board-up service.

It has a fleet of fully-equipped vehicles enabling the team to meet customer demands across Lancashire, in as short a time as possible.

BRG has a wealth of experience in manufacturing and fitting shop fronts, and is the main glass and glazing supplier to Waves Swimming Centre, in Blackburn, as well as maintaining the Victorian Grade II-listed conservatory in Corporation Park, Blackburn.

PROFESSIONALS: The company has more than 40 years' experience

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Chorley offers a range of leisure and tourist destinations including Astley Hall Museum and Art Gallery, the yarrow Valley Country Park and CamelotTheme Park, as well as an Odeon cinema in nearby Preston.

Chorley is famous for its markets, which date back to 1498 - the most popular market day in the Lancashire town is Tuesday. There are two main areas which make up Chorley Markets; the famous Flat Iron (sometimes known locally as the 'Cattle Market') and Chorley Covered Market, which is located in the heart of the town.

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Good inter-personal skills are also essential, as well as an exemplary telephone manner.

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email tracy.cunliffe@lancashire.newsquest.co.uk or phone 01254 298299.

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No payments until Easter!* *Subject to terms and conditions.

www.stoneacre.co.uk

Quarry Street, Blackburn, BB1 5DE
Sales: 01254 739202 Service: 01254 511 91

NO CREDIT CHECK FOR MOTABILITY CUSTOMERS

*Terms and conditions apply, full details available at dealership Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required as part of a Stoneacre finance plan. Models / colours shown for illustration purposes only. Cars may be in group stock, subject to availability

WOMAN ZONE

LADIES ONLY GYM!

OPEN 7 DAYS
MON-FRI 7am-9pm
SAT & SUN 9am-5pm

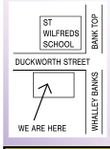
SPECIAL OFFER!!!
TRAIN FROM ONLY
£15.00 PER MONTH
including
* FREE fitness classes
* FREE personal trainers

or alternatively

PAY AS YOU GO FROM ONLY
£2.00
PER SESSION
for weekend fitness

All New Facilities Include:

- Fitness Studio
- Fitness Classes Inclusive
- Sauna, Sunbeds
- One To One Personal Tuition
- Free Parking
- The Latest Cardio Vascular Equipment
- Free Weights Area & Resistance Equipment



Unit 2, Old St Luke's School,
Duckworth St, Blackburn BB2 2JQ
01254 692916

FULLY EQUIPPED GYMNASIUM
NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

CASH PAYMENTS ONLY - NO CONTRACT, STANDING ORDER OR DIRECT DEBIT PAYMENTS REQUIRED

SPECIAL OFFER **BUY ONE MONTH GET ONE MONTH FREE**
(Special Offer for New Members Only)

Cardio Studio
Treadmills - Steppers
Rowing Machines
Cross Trainers **- Bikes**

Gymnasium
A Wide Range of
Free Weights & Machines

Nutrition
A Huge Range of
Supplements & Advice

RATES

DAILY	£3.00
WEEKLY	£8.00
MONTHLY	£19.99

CENTRAL FITNESS
UNISEX GYMNASIUM

Monday to Friday
7am - 10pm
Saturday & Sunday
9am - 5pm

Tel: **01254 231 007**
102 Blackburn Rd, Accrington BB5 0AD